

REMARKS

The Abstract of the Disclosure is rewritten in American form.

The claims have been revised as to form but not as to content.

Reconsideration is accordingly respectfully requested, for the rejection of the claims as anticipated by or unpatentable over COUETOUX et al., or as unpatentable over KOBAYASHI in view of BEDARD.

The French counterpart of COUETOUX et al. was discussed in the opening paragraphs of the present application, and so ample groundwork was laid for distinguishing the invention over COUETOUX et al., which we have done both in our specification and, more importantly, in our claims.

To summarize that distinction, further elucidated in the specification, the motor of COUETOUX et al. is secured to the support through securing lugs 48 and screws, not through radial clamping of a collar.

Therefore, COUETOUX et al. is substantially without reference value.

KOBAYASHI discloses a ventilation assembly with two motors 9 carried by a support with radial arms 10a.

The radial arms 10a are connected one with the others by central collars. Each collar surrounds the corresponding

motor, but a radial gap is maintained between the collar and the motor.

Evidently, each motor is mounted on the corresponding collar through a triangular plate provided with screws at its angles.

BEDARD relates to an airblower 21 intended to be housed in a casing 11.

This kind of encased airblower is advantageously provided with a seal used to separate the inlet side of the casement from the outlet side (see column 1, lines 43-45).

BEDARD teaches providing this sealing function as well as an acoustic isolation function through a member 22 which is, on the one hand, secured to the casing 11 and which, on the other hand, clamps the airblower 21 through a skirt.

There would have been no motivation to combine KOBAYASHI with BEDARD.

Indeed, in KOBAYASHI, the motor is not encased. There was therefore no reason to use the sealing taught by BEDARD and therefore, no reason to apply the elements disclosed in BEDARD in order to ensure this function.

In any event, assuming that a skilled person would have contemplated such a transfer of teaching from BEDARD to KOBAYASHI, he/she would have connected the member 22 of BEDARD to the support of KOBAYASHI, in the same way that the member 22 is connected in BEDARD to the surrounding structure.

This connection would moreover have been necessary to ensure the isolation of the motor and the lowering of the acoustic level disclosed in BEDARD (see column 2, lines 17-20).

Thus, the member 22 would have been connected to the arms 10a and the collar of BEDARD would then have clamped the member 22.

Accordingly, the collar of BEDARD would not have been integral with the support 10a, contrary to what is recited in claims 1, 15 and 16.

Therefore, after having combined KOBAYASHI with BEDARD, the skilled person would not have obviously achieved the subject matter of claims 1, 15 and 16.

As the claims in the case thus bring out this novel and unobvious subject matter with ample particularity and distinctness, it is believed that they are all patentable, and reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of connected loops and peaks, positioned above a horizontal line.

Robert J. Patch, Reg. No. 17,355
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

RJP/lrs

APPENDIX:

The Appendix includes the following item:

- new Abstract of the Disclosure